

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08

FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6653

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD PL

SUBJ: ANTI-DUMPING ACTION ON POLISH GOLF CARTS

REF: (A) STATE 31685, (B) STATE 26197, (C) STATE 26196

1. PURSUING THE COURSE OUTLINED IN REF A AND FURTHER REFINED IN DISCUSSIONS HERE WITH AMBASSADOR TRAMPCZYNSKI, I EXPLAINED THE MAIN POINTS OF TREASURY'S FINDINGS TO VICE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE STRZELECKI FEBRUARY 18 AND PROVIDED HIM WITH COPIES OF SUCHMAN'S LETTER (REF B) AND THE MEMORANDUM (REF C).

2. STRZELECKI SAID HE WOULD, OF COURSE, STUDY THE DOCUMENTS, BUT HIS INITIAL REACTION TO MY PRESENTATION WAS THAT THE LEVEL OF THE DUTIES WHICH TREASURY HAS DECIDED UPON COULD (A) BANKRUPT THE MELEX FIRM IN THE US; (B) END POLISH GOLF-CART SHIPMENTS TO THE US, AND (C) VIRTUALLY ELIMINATE PROSPECTS FOR A SIZEABLE INCREASE IN POLISH EXPORTS OF MANUFACTURED PRODUCTS TO THE US.

3. THE VICE MINISTER ALSO EXPRESSED AMAZEMENT THAT THE ANTI-DUMPING DUTY WOULD AVERAGE AROUND \$100 IN 1975, JUMP TO \$300 IN THE FIRST THREE QUARTERS OF 1976, AND THEN DROP TO ZERO DURING THE LAST QUARTER OF 1976. I EXPLAINED THE CHANGE IN THE FAIR-

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VALUE PRICE AND THE REASON FOR IT. STRZELECKI SAID THAT, OVER THE LONG MONTHS OF THIS GOLF-CART AFFAIR, HE HAD TAKEN THE POSITION WITHIN THE GOP THAT, ALTHOUGH SOME ASPECTS OF THE USG PERFORMANCE MIGHT SEEM ILLOGICAL, ALL WOULD BECOME CLEAR WHEN THE FINAL DECISION WAS REACHED. HE HAD EMPHASIZED TO HIS SUPERIORS THAT, BECAUSE ANY ACTION WOULD HAVE TO BE BASED ON WRITTEN LAW AND REGULATIONS, THE FINAL US DECISION WOULD BE BOTH REASONABLE

AND FAIR. THE VICE MINISTER SAID THAT, FROM WHAT HE UNDERSTOOD OF TREASURY'S DETERMINATIONS, HE WAS NOT IN THE DIFFICULT POSITION OF HAVING TO ADMIT TO HIS SUPERIORS THAT HIS CONFIDENCE HAD BEEN MISPLACED. (COMMENT: HE WAS CLEARLY DEEPLY SHAKEN BY THE SIZE OF THE TOTAL ANTI-DUMPING DUTIES WHICH WILL BE LEVIED ON MELEX. END COMMENT).

4. STRZELECKI SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SET UP A MEETING FOR ME WITH VICE PREMIER OLSZEWSKI TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER AND HOPED THAT HE AND I COULD MEET AGAIN BEFORE THIS HIGHER-LEVEL MEETING TAKES PLACE. HE ALSO BELIEVED HIS GOVERNMENT PROBABLY WOULD WANT TO SEND A DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON TO MAKE ONE LAST ATTEMPT TO EXPLAIN ITS POINT OF VIEW. I EMPHASIZED THAT ANY SUCH MEETING WOULD HAVE TO OCCUR SOON, SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TREASURY DECISIONS COULD NOT BE HELD UP VERY LONG.

5. COMMENT: I GREATLY APPRECIATE THE STRENUOUS EFFORTS THAT TREASURY AND, PARTICULARLY, DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY SUCHMAN HAVE MADE TO DEAL WITH THIS COMPLICATED PROBLEM. I FEAR, HOWEVER, THAT THE TRADE ACT'S ANTI-DUMPING AND COUNTERVAILING-DUTY PROVISIONS CAN ONLY RESULT IN MANY FUTURE EPISODES WHICH WILL GREATLY DISTURB US-POLISH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL RELATIONS. IF WASHINGTON AGENCIES KNOW OF REASONS WHY I SHOULD BE LESS PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE IMPACT OF THE TRADE ACT ON POLAND'S EFFORTS TO EXPORT MANUFACTURED GOODS TO THE US, I WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING OF THEM BEFORE I MEET WITH VICE PREMIER OLSZEWSKI. END COMMENT.

DAVIES

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
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